
Subject: Making IDL Code Available Was: Easy way to make hard copies at full printer resolution

Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Kristian Kjaer (kristian.kjaer@risoe.dk) writes:

> Sounds great! Any chance of getting hold of this code, preferably with
> the ten minutes added in?

Well, yes, now that you mention it... :-)

Despite what it sometimes looks like on this newsgroup, I make a living by writing IDL code and (sometimes) teaching other people how to write IDL code. This linked list idea I have was to be the first addition to a new shareware library I plan to be offering on my web page. (My second addition is to be a completely re-written PS_FORM program that works the way it is suppose to and doesn't embarrass me with the way it is written. :-)

My idea is to offer IDL save files on the shareware site, and send you the IDL code when you register the product and pay your shareware fee. (I'm thinking of fees in the neighborhood of \$20-\$100, depending upon the program.) I don't have any idea whether this will work or not, or whether it is even practical. But I would like to be able to offer better programs to people than what I currently give away for free. And I would like to be compensated, at least a little, for the time it takes to write them. So I'm going to try this and see how it works. My grand idea is to make this a repository of good code offered by many different IDL programmers.

I expect this idea might be a bit controversial and to some extent it goes against the grain of the open exchange of ideas and programs that makes this newsgroup such a great place to visit. I am certainly not trying to damage that sense of openness. And I am willing to tell you how to write your own linked list if that is what you want to do. (Hopefully, it won't take you two weeks like it did me. *Why* are linked lists so easy to envision and so hard to program?!) I think of this shareware library as over and above the kind of exchange that goes on in this newsgroup.

I am in the process of getting all of this organized and it may be a few more weeks before everything is

ready to go. (Documenting the programs sufficiently is what takes the most time.) But I will certainly let you know when it is ready. Perhaps I will offer a free book to my first 10 shareware customers. :-)

Best Regards,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Phone: 970-221-0438, Toll-Free Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
